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**BEFORE THE  
PHYSICAL THERAPY BOARD OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 1D-2000-62592

JANE E. SAVAHELI  
P O Box 491103  
Los Angeles, CA 90049

**A C C U S A T I O N**

Physical Therapist No. PT 9186

Respondent.

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Complainant alleges:

**PARTIES**

1. Steven K. Hartzell (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in his official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Physical Therapy Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs.

2. On or about June 22, 1979, the Physical Therapy Board of California issued Physical Therapist Number PT 9186 to Jane E. Savaheli (Respondent). The Physical Therapist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on July 31, 2003, unless renewed.

**JURISDICTION**

3. This Accusation is brought before the Physical Therapy Board of

California (Board), under the authority of the following sections of the Business and Professions Code (Code).

4. Section 2609 of the Code states:

The board shall issue, suspend, and revoke licenses and approvals to practice physical therapy as provided in this chapter.

5. Section 2660 of the Code states:

The board may, after the conduct of appropriate proceedings under the



Administrative Procedure Act, suspend for not more than 12 months, or revoke, or

impose probationary conditions upon, or issue subject to terms and conditions any

license, certificate, or approval issued under this chapter for any of the following causes:



(a) Advertising in violation of Section 17500.

(b) Fraud in the procurement of any license under this chapter.

(c) Procuring or aiding or offering to procure or aid in criminal abortion.

(d) Conviction of a crime which substantially relates to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physical therapist. The record of conviction or a certified copy thereof shall be conclusive evidence of that conviction.

(e) Impersonating or acting as a proxy for an applicant in any examination given under this chapter.

(f) Habitual intemperance.

(g) Addiction to the excessive use of any habit-forming drug.

(h) Gross negligence in his or her practice as a physical therapist.

(i) Conviction of a violation of any of the provisions of this chapter or of the State Medical Practice Act, or violating, or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violating of, or conspiring to violate any provision or term of this chapter or of the State Medical Practice Act.

(j) The aiding or abetting of any person to violate this chapter or any

1 regulations duly adopted under this chapter.

2 (k) The aiding or abetting of any person to engage in the unlawful  
3 practice of physical therapy.

4 (l) The commission of any fraudulent, dishonest, or corrupt act which is  
5 substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physical  
6 therapist.

7 (m) Except for good cause, the knowing failure to protect patients by  
8 failing to follow infection control guidelines of the board, thereby risking  
9 transmission of blood-borne infectious diseases from licensee to patient, from  
10 patient to patient, and from patient to licensee. In administering this subdivision,  
11 the board shall consider referencing the standards, regulations, and guidelines of  
12 the State Department of Health Services developed pursuant to Section 1250.11  
13 of the Health and Safety Code and the standards, regulations, and guidelines  
14 pursuant to the California Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1973 (Part 1  
15 (commencing with Section 6300) of Division 5 of the Labor Code) for preventing  
16 the transmission of HIV, Hepatitis B, and other blood-borne pathogens in health  
17 care settings. As necessary, the board shall consult with the Medical Board of  
18 California, the California Board of Podiatric Medicine, the Board of Dental  
19 Examiners of California, the Board of Registered Nursing, and the Board of  
20 Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, to encourage appropriate  
21 consistency in the implementation of this subdivision.

22 The board shall seek to ensure that licensees are informed of the responsibility of  
23 licensees and others to follow infection control guidelines, and of the most recent  
24 scientifically recognized safeguards for minimizing the risk of transmission of  
25 blood-borne infectious diseases.

26 6. Section 2661.5 of the Code states:

1 (a) In any order issued in resolution of a disciplinary proceeding before  
2 the board, the board may request the administrative law judge to direct any  
3 licensee found guilty of unprofessional conduct to pay to the board a sum not to  
4 exceed the actual and reasonable costs of the investigation and prosecution of the  
5 case.

6 (b) The costs to be assessed shall be fixed by the administrative law judge  
7 and shall not in any event be increased by the board. When the board does not  
8 adopt a proposed decision and remands the case to an administrative law judge,  
9 the administrative law judge shall not increase the amount of the assessed costs  
10 specified in the proposed decision.

11 (c) When the payment directed in an order for payment of costs is not  
12 made by the licensee, the board may enforce the order of payment by bringing an  
13 action in any appropriate court. This right of enforcement shall be in addition to  
14 any other rights the board may have as to any licensee directed to pay costs.

15 (d) In any judicial action for the recovery of costs, proof of the board's  
16 decision shall be conclusive proof of the validity of the order of payment and the  
17 terms for payment.

18 (e) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the board shall not renew  
19 or reinstate the license or approval of any person who has failed to pay all  
20 of the costs ordered under this section.

21 (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the board may, in its  
22 discretion, conditionally renew or reinstate for a maximum of one year the  
23 license or approval of any person who demonstrates financial hardship and  
24 who enters into a formal agreement with the board to reimburse the board  
25 within that one year period for those unpaid costs.

26 (f) All costs recovered under this section shall be deposited in the  
27

1                   Physical Therapy Fund as a reimbursement in either the fiscal year in which the  
2                   costs are actually recovered or the previous fiscal year, as the board may direct.

3                   7.       Section 2620.7 of the Code states:

4                   A physical therapist shall document his or her evaluation, goals, treatment plan,  
5                   and summary of treatment in the patient record. Patient records shall be maintained for a  
6                   period of no less than seven years following the discharge of the patient, except that the  
7                   records of unemancipated minors shall be maintained at least one year after the minor has  
8                   reached the age of 18 years, and not in any case less than seven years.

9                   8.       Section 2630 of the Code states:

10                  It is unlawful for any person or persons to practice, or offer to practice, physical  
11                  therapy in this state for compensation received or expected, or to hold himself or herself  
12                  out as a physical therapist, unless at the time of so doing the person holds a valid,  
13                  unexpired, and unrevoked license issued under this chapter.

14                  Nothing in this section shall restrict the activities authorized by their licenses on  
15                  the part of any persons licensed under this code or any initiative act, or the activities  
16                  authorized to be performed pursuant to Article 4.5 (commencing with Section 2655) or  
17                  Chapter 7.7 (commencing with Section 3500).

18                  A physical therapist licensed pursuant to this chapter may utilized the services of  
19                  one aide engaged in patient-related tasks to assist the physical therapist in his or her  
20                  practice of physical therapy. "Patient-related task" means a physical therapy service  
21                  rendered directly to the patient by an aide, excluding non-patient-related tasks. "Non-  
22                  patient-related task" means a task related to observation of the patient, transport of the  
23                  patient, physical support only during gait or transfer training, housekeeping duties,  
24                  clerical duties, and similar functions. The aide shall at all times be under the orders,  
25                  direction, and immediate supervision of the physical therapist. Nothing in this section  
26                  shall authorize an aide to independently perform physical therapy or any physical therapy

1 procedure. The board shall adopt regulations that set forth the standards and  
2 requirements for the orders, direction, and immediate supervision of an aide by a physical  
3 therapist. The physical therapist shall provide continuous and immediate supervision of  
4 the aide. The physical therapist shall be in the same facility as, and in proximity to, the  
5 location where the aide is performing patient-related tasks, and shall be readily available  
6 at all times to provide advice or instruction to the aide. When patient-related tasks are  
7 provided to a patient by an aide, the supervising physical therapist shall, at some point  
8 during the treatment day, provide direct service to the patient as treatment for the  
9 patient's condition, or to further evaluate and monitor the patient's progress, and shall  
10 correspondingly document the patient's record.

11 The administration of massage, external baths, or normal exercise not a part of a  
12 physical therapy treatment shall not be prohibited by this section.

13 9. Section 2655 of the Code states:

14 As used in this article:

15 (a) "Physical therapist" means a physical therapist licensed by the board.


16 (b) "Physical therapist assistant" means a person who meets the  
17 qualifications stated in Section 2655.3 and who is approved by the board to assist  
18 in the provision of physical therapy under the supervision of a physical therapist  
19 who shall be responsible for the extent, kind, and quality of the services provided  
20 by the physical therapist assistant.

21 (c) "Physical therapist assistant" and "physical therapy assistant" shall be  
22 deemed identical and interchangeable.

23 10. Section 2655.7 of the Code states:

24 Notwithstanding Section 2630, a physical therapist assistant may assist in the  
25 provision of physical therapy service provided the assistance is rendered under the  
26 supervision of a physical therapist licensed by the board.

1                    11.      California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1398.44, states:

2                    AA licensed physical therapist shall at all times be responsible for all physical  
3                    therapy services provided by the physical therapist assistant. The supervising physical  
4                    therapist has continuing responsibility to follow the progress of each patient, provide  
5                    direct care to the patient and to assure that the physical therapist assistant does not  
6                    tion autonomously. Adequate supervision shall include all of the following:

7                    A(a) The supervising physical therapist shall be readily available in person or by  
8                    telecommunication to the physical therapist assistant at all times while the physical  
9                    therapist assistant is treating patients. The supervising physical therapist shall provide  
10                  periodic on site supervision and observation of the assigned patient care rendered by the  
11                  physical therapist assistant.

12                  A(b) The supervising physical therapist shall initially evaluate each patient and  
13                  document in the patient record, along with his or her signature, the evaluation and when  
14                  the patient is to be reevaluated.

15                  A(c) The supervising physical therapist shall formulate and document in each  
16                  patient's record, along with his or her signature, the treatment program goals and plan  
17                  based upon the evaluation and any other information available to the supervising physical  
18                  therapist. This information shall be communicated verbally, or in writing by the  
19                  supervising physical therapist to the physical therapist assistant prior to initiation of  
20                  treatment by the physical therapist assistant. The supervising physical therapist shall  
21                  determine which elements of the treatment plan may be assigned to the physical therapist  
22                  assistant. Assignment of these responsibilities must be commensurate with the  
23                  qualifications, including experience, education and training, of the physical therapist  
24                  assistant.

25                  A(d) The supervising physical therapist shall reevaluate the patient as previously  
26                  determined, or more often if necessary, and modify the treatment, goals and plan as

1 needed. The reevaluation shall include treatment to the patient by the supervising  
2 physical therapist. The reevaluation shall be documented and signed by the supervising  
3 physical therapist in the patient's record and shall reflect the patient's progress toward the  
4 treatment goals and when the next reevaluation shall be performed.

5 A(e) The physical therapist assistant shall document each treatment in the patient  
6 record, along with his or her signature. The physical therapist assistant shall document in  
7 the patient record and notify the supervising physical therapist of any change in the  
8 patient's condition not consistent with planned progress or treatment goals. The change in  
9 condition necessitates a reevaluation by a supervising physical therapist before further  
10 treatment by the physical therapist assistant.

11 A(f) Within seven (7) days of the care being provided by the physical therapist  
12 assistant, the supervising physical therapist shall review, cosign and date all  
13 documentation by the physical therapist assistant or conduct a weekly case conference  
14 and document it in the patient record. Cosigning by the supervising physical therapist  
15 indicates that the supervising physical therapist has read the documentation, and unless  
16 the supervising physical therapist indicates otherwise, he or she is in agreement with the  
17 contents of the documentation.

18 A(g) There shall be a regularly scheduled and documented case conference  
19 between the supervising physical therapist and physical therapist assistant regarding the  
20 patient. The frequency of the conferences is to be determined by the supervising physical  
21 therapist based on the needs of the patient, the supervisory needs of the physical therapist  
22 assistant and shall be at least every thirty calendar days.

23 A(h) The supervising physical therapist shall establish a discharge plan. At the  
24 time of discharge, or within 7 (seven) days thereafter, a supervising physical therapist  
25 shall document in the patient's record, along with his or her signature, the patient's  
26 response to treatment in the form of a reevaluation or discharge summary.®



1                   12.     California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1399, states:

2                   AA physical therapy aide is an unlicensed person who assists a physical therapist  
3                   and may be utilized by a physical therapist in his or her practice by performing  
4                   nonpatient related tasks, or by performing patient related tasks.

5                   A(a) As used in these regulations:



6                   A(1) A 'patient related task' means a physical therapy service rendered directly to  
7                   the patient by an aide, excluding nonpatient related tasks as defined below.

8                   A(2) A 'nonpatient related task' means a task related to observation of the patient,  
9                   transport of patients, physical support only during gait or transfer training, housekeeping  
10                  duties, clerical duties and similar functions.

11                  A(b) 'Under the orders, direction and immediate supervision' means:

12                  A(1) Prior to the initiation of care, the physical therapist shall evaluate every  
13                  patient prior to the performance of any patient related tasks by the aide. The evaluation  
14                  shall be documented in the patient's record.

15                  A(2) The physical therapist shall formulate and record in the patient's record a  
16                  treatment program based upon the evaluation and any other information available to the  
17                  physical therapist, and shall determine those patient related tasks which may be assigned  
18                  to an aide. The patient's record shall reflect those patient related tasks that were rendered  
19                  by the aide, including the signature of the aide who performed those tasks.

20                  A(3) The physical therapist shall assign only those patient related tasks that can be  
21                  safely and effectively performed by the aide. The supervising physical therapist shall be  
22                  responsible at all times for the conduct of the aide while he or she is on duty.

23                  A(4) The physical therapist shall provide continuous and immediate supervision  
24                  of the aide. The physical therapist shall be in the same facility as and in immediate  
25                  proximity to the location where the aide is performing patient related tasks, and shall be  
26                  readily available at all times to provide advice or instruction to the aide. When patient

1 related tasks are provided a patient by an aide the supervising physical therapist shall at  
2 some point during the treatment day provide direct service to the patient as treatment for  
3 the patient's condition or to further evaluate and monitor the patient's progress, and so  
4 document in the patient's record.

5 A(5) The physical therapist shall perform periodic re-evaluation of the patient as  
6 necessary and make adjustments in the patient's treatment program. The re-evaluation  
7 shall be documented in the patient's record.

8 A(6) The supervising physical therapist shall countersign with their first initial  
9 and last name, and date all entries in the patient's record, on the same day as patient  
10 related tasks were provided by the aide.@

#### 11 FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

12 (Aiding and Abetting the Unlicensed Practice of Physical Therapy)

13 13. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2660,  
14 subsections (j) and (k), of the Code in that respondent aided and abetted the unlicensed practice  
15 of physical therapy. The circumstances are as follows:

16 A. Respondent owns and operates Academy Rehabilitation at 900 Wilshire  
17 Blvd., Suite 450, Santa Monica, California where respondent provides phys[therapy] therapy  
18 services directly to patients.

#### 19 Patient L.T.

20 B. On or about March 5, 1999, respondent first saw and evaluated patient  
21 L.T. at her office. Subsequently, physical therapy services were provided to patient L.T.  
22 on various dates, including March 10, 12, 19, 24, 29, 31 and April 2, 1999. On those  
23 dates the physical therapy services included soft tissue mobilization, joint mobilization  
24 and neuromuscular reeducation, which services may only be provided by a licensed  
25 physical therapist, but which were provided by a physical therapy aide. On the above  
26 dates, the physical therapy services also included hot pack and phonophoresis. The

1 record does not reflect any documentation of delegation of these duties to an aide nor of  
2 any supervision provided to the aide. Neither the aide nor respondent signed the patient  
3 record for the above-noted dates.

4 C. On or about March 10, 12, 19, 24, 29, 31 and April 2, 1999, respondent  
5 aided and abetted the unlawful practice of physical therapy by permitting an physical  
6 therapy aide to provide physical therapy services that only a licensed physical therapist  
7 may provide, as more specifically set forth in subparagraph 13.C. above.

8 D. On or about March 10, 12, 19, 24, 29, 31 and April 2, 1999, respondent  
9 aided and abetted the unlawful practice of physical therapy by permitting a physical  
10 therapy aide to provide physical therapy services without proper supervision, as more  
11 specifically set forth in subparagraph 13.C. above, as required by section 2630 of the  
12 Code and California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1398.44.

13 Patient W.B.

14 E. On or about April 26, 1999, respondent first saw and evaluated patient  
15 W.B. at her office. Subsequently, physical therapy services were provided to patient  
16 W.B. on April 26, 1999, through May 7, 1999, by Amy Burns, an unlicensed individual.

17 F. On or about April 26, 1999, through May 7, 1999, respondent aided and  
18 abetted the unlawful practice of physical therapy by permitting an unlicensed individual  
19 to provide physical therapy services that only a licensed physical therapist may provide.  
20

21 SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

22 (Lack of Proper Record Documentation)

23 14. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2620.7 of the  
24 Code in that respondent failed to properly document patient files. The circumstances are as  
25 follows:

26 A. The facts and circumstances alleged in paragraph 13.A. are incorporated  
27



1 here as if fully set forth.

2 Patient A.C.

3 B. On or about February 14, 2000, respondent first saw and evaluated patient  
4 A.C. at her office. In the evaluation of the patient, respondent set goals to decrease  
5 patient A.C.'s pain and inflammation but never gave any indication of the existing level  
6 of pain and inflammation. Since the evaluation was incomplete, respondent failed to  
7 properly document the patient file.

8 C. Respondent's treatment plan for patient A.C. included hot/ice,  
9 phonophoresis, soft tissue massage, joint mobilization, medical exercise therapy and  
10 shoulder rehab. The patient was seen eight times through March 15, 2000. Respondent  
11 wrote and signed all of patient A.C.'s progress notes. The progress notes never describe  
12 how the treatments were provided, its frequency, the duration of the treatments or the  
13 patient's response to the treatments. Since the progress notes were incomplete,  
14 respondent failed to properly document the patient file.

15 D. Respondent's records for patient A.C. include a progress update dated  
16 March 15, 2000, but does not otherwise contain a discharge summary that reflects  
17 whether the initial goals set were met. Since the patient chart did not contain a complete  
18 discharge summary, respondent failed to properly document the patient file.

19 Patient J.H.

20 E. On or about April 30, 1999, respondent first saw and evaluated patient  
21 J.H. at her office. In the evaluation of the patient, respondent set goals to decrease  
22 patient J.H.'s pain and inflammation but never gave any indication of the existing  
23 objective level of pain and inflammation and did not sign the evaluation. Since the  
24 evaluation was incomplete, respondent failed to properly document the patient file.

25 F. Respondent's treatment plan for patient J.H. included hot pack,  
26 phonophoresis, soft tissue massage, joint mobilization, and medical exercise therapy.

1 The patient was seen five times through May 14, 1999. Respondent wrote and signed all  
2 of patient J.H.'s progress notes. The progress notes never describe how the treatments  
3 were provided, its frequency, the duration of the treatments or the patient's response to  
4 the treatments. Since the progress notes were incomplete, respondent failed to properly  
5 document the patient file.

6 Patient D.G.

7 G. On or about May 29, 1998, respondent first saw and evaluated patient  
8 D.G. at her office. In the evaluation of the patient, respondent set goals to decrease  
9 patient D.G.'s thigh pain and spasm, increase knee movement, increase hip strength and  
10 increase balance and function. The patient was seen on May 29 and June 5, 1999.  
11 Respondent wrote and signed the progress notes. The progress notes never describe how  
12 the treatments were provided, its frequency, the duration of the treatments or the  
13 patient's response to the treatments. Since the progress notes were incomplete,  
14 respondent failed to properly document the patient file.

15 H. Respondent's records for patient D.G. do not include a discharge  
16 summary that reflects whether the initial goals set were met. Since the patient chart did  
17 not contain a complete discharge summary, respondent failed to properly document the  
18 patient file.

19 Patient E.N.

20 I. On or about November 29, 1999, respondent first saw and evaluated  
21 patient E.N. at her office. In the evaluation of the patient, respondent set goals to  
22 decrease patient E.N.'s pain and inflammation but never gave any indication of the  
23 objective existing level of pain and inflammation. Since the evaluation was incomplete,  
24 respondent failed to properly document the patient file.

25 J. Respondent's treatment plan for patient E.N. included hot pack,  
26 ultrasound, soft tissue mobilization left knee, medical exercise therapy, gait training,

1 balance training and proprioception training. The patient was seen six times through  
2 December 13, 1999. Respondent wrote and signed all but one of patient E.N.'s progress  
3 notes. The progress notes never describe how the treatments were provided, its  
4 frequency, the duration of the treatments or the patient's response to the treatments.  
5 Since the progress notes were incomplete, respondent failed to properly document the  
6 patient file.

7 K. Respondent's records for patient E.N. do not include a discharge  
8 summary that reflects whether the initial goals set were met. Since the patient chart did  
9 not contain a complete discharge summary, respondent failed to properly document the  
10 patient file.

11 Patient C.G.

12 L. On or about March 30, 1998, respondent first saw and evaluated patient  
13 C.G. at her office. In the evaluation of the patient, respondent set goals to decrease  
14 patient C.G.'s pain but never gave any indication of the existing level of pain. The  
15 evaluation was not signed. Since the evaluation was incomplete, respondent failed to  
16 properly document the patient file.

17 M. Respondent's treatment plan for patient C.G. included hot packs, ice  
18 packs, ultrasound, joint mobilization, soft tissue mobilization and medical exercise  
19 therapy. The patient was seen ten times through April 26, 1998. Respondent wrote and  
20 signed all of patient C.G.'s progress notes. One progress note, for April 26, 1998, was  
21 not signed. The progress notes never describe how the treatments were provided, its  
22 frequency, the duration of the treatments or the patient's response to the treatments.  
23 Since the progress notes were incomplete, respondent failed to properly document the  
24 patient file.

25 N. Respondent's records for patient C.G. include a discharge summary dated  
26 April 24, 1998, which was not clearly written making it difficult to determine if the initial

goals set were met. The discharge summary was not signed by respondent. Since the discharge summary was illegible and unsigned, respondent failed to properly document the patient file.

Patient B.W.

O. On or about February 16, 1998, respondent first saw and evaluated patient B.W. at her office. In the evaluation of the patient, respondent set goals to decrease patient B.W.'s pain but never gave any indication of the existing level of pain and did not sign the evaluation. Since the evaluation was incomplete, respondent failed to properly document the patient file.

P. Respondent's treatment plan for patient B.W. included hot pack, soft tissue mobilization, range of motion, flexibility exercises, back rehab program and activities of daily living for return to work. The patient was seen fifteen times through March 19, 1998. Respondent wrote and signed all of patient B.W.'s progress notes. The progress notes never described how the treatments were provided, their frequency, the duration of the treatments or the patient's response to the treatments. Since the progress notes were incomplete, respondent failed to properly document the patient file.

Q. Respondent's records for patient B.W. does not include a discharge summary that reflects whether the initial goals set were met. Since the patient chart did not contain a complete discharge summary, respondent failed to properly document the patient file.

Patient L.T.

R. On or about March 5, 1999, respondent first saw and evaluated patient L.T. at her office. In the evaluation of the patient, respondent set goals to decrease patient L.T.'s pain and inflammation but never gave any indication of the existing level of pain and did not sign the evaluation. Since the evaluation was incomplete, respondent failed to properly document the patient file.

1           S.       On or about January 10, 2000, respondent again saw and evaluated patient  
2 L.T. at her office. In the evaluation of the patient, respondent did not set any goals and  
3 did not sign the evaluation. Since the evaluation was incomplete, respondent failed to  
4 properly document the patient file.

5           T.       Respondent=s treatment plan for patient L.T. included hot pack, ice pack,  
6 phonophoresis, medical exercise therapy, soft tissue mobilization and joint mobilization.  
7 Respondent wrote and signed some of patient L.T.=s progress notes. The patient was  
8 seen seven times through April 2, 1999. The progress notes never described how the  
9 treatments were provided, their frequency, the duration of the treatments or the patient=s  
10 response to the treatments. Since the progress notes were incomplete, respondent failed  
11 to properly document the patient file.

12 Patient H.C.

13           U.       On or about January 10, 2000, respondent first saw and evaluated patient  
14 H.C. at her office. In the evaluation of the patient, respondent set goals to decrease  
15 patient H.C.=s pain and inflammation but never gave any indication of the existing level  
16 of pain and inflammation. Since the evaluation was incomplete, respondent failed to  
17 properly document the patient file.

18           V.       Respondent=s treatment plan for patient H.C. included hot pack,  
19 ultrasound, manual therapy, soft tissue, gentle joint mobilization, and medical exercise  
20 therapy. Respondent wrote and signed all of patient H.C.=s progress notes. The patient  
21 was seen thirteen times through March 17, 2000. The progress notes never described  
22 how the treatments were provided, their frequency, the duration of the treatments or the  
23 patient=s response to the treatments. Since the progress notes were incomplete,  
24 respondent failed to properly document the patient file.

25 THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

26 (Dishonesty)



1                   15.     Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2660,  
2     subdivision (l) of the Code in that respondent committed fraudulent, dishonest, or corrupt acts  
3     which were substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physical therapist.  
4     The circumstances are as follows:

5                   A.     The facts and circumstances alleged in subparagraphs 14.L., 14.M. and  
6     14.N. are incorporated here as if fully set forth.

7                   B.     On or about April 17, 1998, respondent billed Medicare for physical  
8     therapy services for patient C.G. on that date. Respondent did not provide physical  
9     therapy services to patient C.G. on or about April 17, 1998. On or about March 15, 1998,  
10    respondent was reimbursed for the physical therapy services billed for April 17, 1998.

11                  C.     On or about April 17, 1998, respondent committed a fraudulent, dishonest,  
12    or corrupt act which was substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of  
13    a physical therapist when she billed Medicare for a service that had not been performed.

14   Patient L.T.

15                  D.     The facts and circumstances alleged in subparagraphs 13.B., 13.C., 13.D.,  
16    14.R., 14.S. and 14.T. are incorporated here as if fully set forth.

17                  E.     On or about July 3, 2001, when an office audit of respondent=s practice  
18    was conducted, respondent=s progress notes in the records for patient L.T. were  
19    unsigned. On or about November 1, 2001, respondent provided records under subpoena  
20    which had been altered by adding respondent=s signature to the progress notes.

21                  F.     On or about November 1, 2001, respondent committed a fraudulent,  
22    dishonest, or corrupt act which was substantially related to the qualifications, functions,  
23    or duties of a physical therapist when she altered the patient records of patient L.T. as  
24    more fully described above in subparagraph 15.E. above.

25                  G.     On or about March 10, 12, 19, 24, 29, 31 and April 2, 1999, respondent  
26    billed United Health Care for physical therapy services, that required performance by a

1 licensed physical therapist, as if they had been performed by respondent when in fact  
2 they had been performed by a physical therapy aide, inasmuch as contrary to California  
3 Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1399, respondent did not ensure that the aide  
4 documented the patient chart for respondent to countersign, with her first initial and last  
5 name, and date on the same day as patient related tasks were provided by the aide.

6 H. On or about March 10, 12, 19, 24, 29, 31 and April 2, 1999, respondent  
7 committed fraudulent, dishonest, or corrupt acts which were substantially related to the  
8 qualifications, functions, or duties of a physical therapist when she billed for physical  
9 therapy services that required the performance of a licensed physical therapist when the  
10 services had been performed by a physical therapy aide, as more fully described above in  
11 subparagraph 15.G. above.

### 12 THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### 13 (Unprofessional Conduct)

14 16 Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2660 of the  
15 Code in that respondent engaged in unprofessional conduct. The circumstances are as follows:

16 A. The facts and allegations in paragraphs 13 through 15 above are  
17 incorporated here as if fully set forth.

#### 18 PRAYER



19 WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein  
20 alleged, and that following the hearing, the Physical Therapy Board of California issue a  
21 decision:

22 1 Revoking or suspending Physical Therapist Number PT 9186, issued to  
23 Jane E. Savaheli;

24 2 Ordering Jane E. Savaheli to pay the Physical Therapy Board of California  
25 the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and  
26 Professions Code section 2661.5;

1                    3        Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.  
2        DATED: \_\_11/27/02\_\_\_\_\_

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Original Signed By  
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STEVEN K. HARTZELL  
Executive Officer  
Physical Therapy Board of California  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
State of California  
Complainant